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OCA 88-3144
30 September 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director
The Deputy Director

FROM: John L. Helgerson
Director of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: Weekly Report

Grassley Amendment - Presidential Action: Late last week the President signed the Fiscal Year 1989 Treasury, Postal Service and General Government Appropriations Act. The bill contained, among other provisions, the FY '89 version of the so-called "Grassley amendment" that purports to restrict the use of secrecy agreements containing the term "classifiable." In a strongly worded signing statement, the President indicated that although he was signing the measure, he disapproved of the amendment. He stated further that because of the federal district court decision finding the amendment an unconstitutional infringement by the Congress on his prerogatives, he would regard the FY '89 version as null and void unless and until the Supreme Court reversed the lower court decision. That decision was recently appealed to the Court by several of the losing parties, including some Members of Congress.

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